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MODIFIED TYPE II STORAGE SITE ARKHANGEL'SK/KHOLM AIRFIELD, USSR

A modified Type II special weapons storage site found at Arkhangel'sk/

Kholm Airfield on photography is similar in design to other modified Type II sites, with minor deviations in layout apparently dictated by terrain.

Construction activity at the airfield itself viewed against the background of information suggests the possibility that the field is being adapted to accommodate air-to-surface missiles (ASM).

Arkhangel'sk/Kholm Airfield is approximately 11 nautical miles (nm) south-southeast of Arkhangel'sk at 64-23N 40-43E (Figure 1). The 8,400-foot east-west concrete runway is paralleled on the north side by a wide taxiway with associated parking hardstands (Figure 2). At least one POL loop and one probable maintenance hardstand is near the western end of the taxiway.

The loading area is near the eastern end of the runway and has two loading hardstands, with a third possibly under construction. A road extends southeast from the loading area for approximately one nm, bends back to the southwest, and leads to the Type II storage site.

The modified Type II site is 2 nm south of the airfield. It is similar to the one at Engel's Airfield (Figure 3). 1/ The site is enclosed by a probable double fence. The departure from the usual square or rectangular shape of the site probably was dictated by soil-composition and terrain features.

One or two buildings appear to be under construction immediately inside the east gate, normally the site of the support area. The remainder of this section has light-toned probable earth scars, indicating possible construction or excavations. No trace is visible of the inner fence normally used to separate the support and operational areas. The inner

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TOP SECRET

- 1 -



FIGURE 1. LOCATION OF ARKHANGEL'SK/KHOLM AIRFIELD.

- 2 **-**

TOP SECRET

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fence previously seen at other Type II sites has been, in all cases, a board fence serving as a screen to prevent ground observation. The placement of the site at Arkhangel'sk/Kholm in a remote wooded area could obviate the need for such a measure.

The site contains the same structures found at other modified Type II sites involved in the assembly, handling, and storage of special weapons and components:

Storage Bunker. A drive-through storage bunker, similar to the ones found at the original Type II storage sites, is in the northeast corner of the site.

Probable Assembly Building. This structure is similar to those at other Type II sites, but it has no discernible earth revetment. The area around the building, however, appears to be disturbed, indicating possible construction activity.

New Bunker. The probable new-type bunker is at the west end of the site on the north side of the service road. Its shape appears to be generally similar to that of the new bunker at Engel's Airfield.

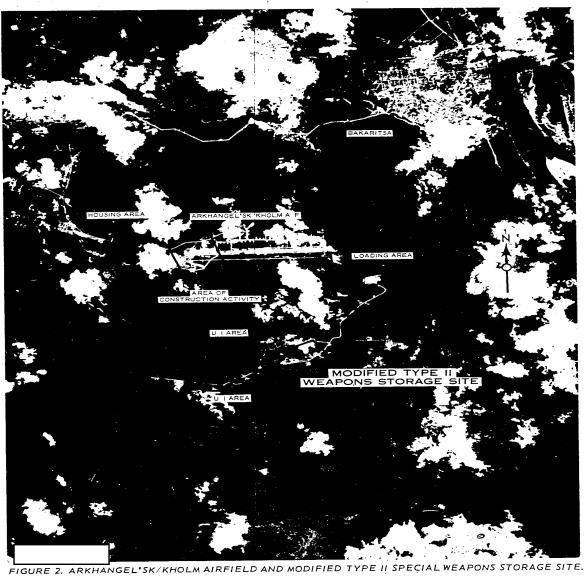
<u>Probable Shipping and Receiving Building.</u> This building is south of and across the service road from the storage bunker.

There are indications of construction activity on the west side of the new bunker. An unimproved road from the new bunker extends beyond the security fence approximately .5 nm north and serves a group of probable construction support buildings outside the storage site. A wide section has been cleared where the road intersects the fence. This point appears to be secured by a guardpost.

Another road leads west .5 nm from the area of the new bunker, through the security fence, to an area of unidentified activity. An area, probably fenced, containing several possible buildings and small clearings is barely visible; lack of contrast precludes interpretation.

Another area of unidentified activity is located at the west end of the runway. A taxiway leads southwest from the runway and is joined by another taxiway or wide road (Figure 2). Seven unidentified objects are evenly

- 3 **-**



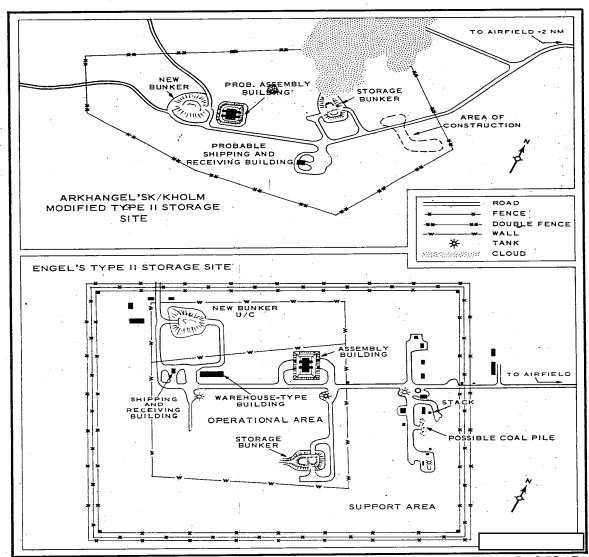


FIGURE 3. COMPARISON OF MODIFIED TYPE II SITE AT ARKHANGEL'SK/KHOLM (TOP) WITH SITE AT ENGEL'S AIRFIELD.

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NPIC/R-13/62

spaced along the north side of the latter. Fresh-appearing earth scars indicate construction activity in this area; high contrast and scattered clouds preclude determination of the nature of the construction. Such an unusual taxiway arrangement, however, suggests the possibility of a specialized weapons system, possibly ASM.

- 6 -

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NPIC/R-13/62

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- 7 -

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